

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Purpose:

- **High-quality environment**
 - Identify significant impacts
 - Avoid where possible
 - Mitigate where possible
- **Ensure public disclosure/participation**

Application of CEQA

- **"Projects" undertaken or requiring approval by State and local government agencies.**
- **"Projects" are activities which have the potential to have a physical impact on the environment**

Basin Planning: Exempt from CEQA Requirements

- **“Functionally equivalent” to the CEQA requirements for environmental documentation** [CCR Title 14, § 15251(g)]
- **“Functionally equivalent” documents include: written report, initial draft of Basin Plan amendment, CEQA checklist** [23 CCR 3776]

CEQA Scoping Meeting

- Legislation requires lead agency to conduct meeting
- Purpose: gain public input on **scope and content** of functionally equivalent documents

Scope of Project

- **Identify environmental impacts**
- **Identify mitigation measures**
- **Identify alternatives for achieving compliance with TMDL (i.e. reducing toxicity levels)**

Anticipated Impacts

- **Meet toxicity standards**
- **Healthy benthic community**
- **Others?**

Concluding Remarks

- Thank you for participating
- Please remember to subscribe